



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for **March 17, 2017**

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature.

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the [links](#) throughout this issue for the latest news and information. Thank you for your interest!

53rd Arizona Legislature, First Regular Session

Today is day 68 of the session. Friday, March 24 is the next deadline – the last day for House consideration of Senate bills and Senate consideration of House bills. **April 14** is the last day for conference committees and **April 18** marks the 100th day of the session.

Summary of Action

More than 527 floor actions have been filed since the last issue; 42 of those are related to bills tracked by the Council. At this time, there are **1,057 bills posted, 47 bills passed; 19 signed, 100 Memorials or Resolutions and 14 passed**. The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging tracks legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. Those bills are featured in the **FULL List**. To view the web report, click [HERE](#).

NOTE: Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It **does** mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

Our web report provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information on all of the bills being tracked and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a

week. Be sure to *click on the bill number for more information*. This list will continue to be edited and updated throughout the session. Bill information including description, status, hearings, etc. is part of a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.

Tracking list bills recently passed

H2042: DHS; fingerprinting requirements – exempts certain individuals who are employed by or who volunteer with a children’s behavioral health program from fingerprinting requirements. Exempts an employee or contractor who provides services to residents or patients in a residential care or nursing care institution or a home health agency from fingerprinting requirements if the person has applied for a good cause exemption and if the person is providing services under the direct visual supervision of an owner or employee who has a valid fingerprinting clearance card. House Engrossed Version [HERE](#)

H2186: ombudsman-citizens aid; reports – requires a link to the website of the ombudsman-citizen aide to be included on certain government websites. Requires a description of the public awareness and outreach activities conducted in ombudsman-citizens aide annual report.

Bills recently signed by the Governor on the tracking list

S1327: gold star memorial – authorizes the department of administration to provide for the placement in Wesley Bolin plaza of a Gold Star memorial. House Summary (3/9/2017) [HERE](#)

Other recent action

H2076: advanced directives registry; provider access – requires the Secretary of State to establish a process for health care providers to access the Advanced Directive Registry and grants specific protections from civil liability for the state and its contractors. Senate Fact Sheet [HERE](#); Hearing: 3/22 in the Senate Health & Human Services at 2 pm, Senate Rm. 1

S1325: nursing facilities; assisted living; advertising – related to the use of compliance and certification survey results in advertisements; includes provision for prohibiting, requiring and clarifying results. Recent action: 3/16 House Committee of the Whole/COW approved

S1441: insurers; health providers; claims arbitration – allows an enrollee of a health plan who has received a surprise out-of-network bill and who disputes the amount of the surprise out-of-network bill to seek arbitration, provided that certain criteria are met. Hearing on 3/20 at 2 pm, House Banking and Insurance, House Rm. 5

Committee Members are listed on the Arizona State Legislature's website at:
<https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/CommitteeMembers>.

Committee Minutes can be found at:
<https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/DocumentSearch/C?SessionID=117>

Arizona State Legislature website: www.azleg.gov

Calendar & News link: <http://www.azleg.gov/alis-today/>

Need to learn more about the legislative process? See [Arizona Bill](#) or [Bill to Law](#).

Find and review bill information [HERE](#).

Learn about the budget process [HERE](#).

Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).

Learn more at *Frequently Asked Questions* linked [HERE](#).

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts at any time by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at **602-542-4331 in Phoenix; 520-628-6580 in Tucson; in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883** (outside Maricopa County only) or email: engage@az.gov.
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [Legislative Maps](#)

FEDERAL UPDATE

Link to the President Trump's *America First Budget* [HERE](#)

Office of Management and Budget webpage [HERE](#)

Information on the **American Health Care Act - Congressional Budget Office** March 13, 2017
Cost Estimate [HERE](#)

Updates

H.R.1038

Improving Transparency and Accuracy in Medicare Part D Spending Act

Introduced on 2/14/2017 by Representative H. Morgan Griffith

This bill amends title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit Medicare Prescription Drug Plan sponsors from retroactively reducing payment on clean claims submitted by pharmacies.

Latest Action: 03/09/2017 Sponsor Introductory remarks on measure.

Other legislation

H.R.1472

Military and Veteran Caregiver Services Improvement Act of 2017

Introduced on 3/9/2017 by Representative James R. Langevin (R-2)

To expand eligibility for the programs of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such programs, to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life and for other purposes.

On 3/9/2017 Referred to the House Energy and Commerce

H.R.1421

Improving Access to Medicare Coverage Act of 2017

Introduced on 3/8/2017 by Rep. Joe Courtney (CT-2)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital stay requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare and for other purposes.

On 3/8/2017 Referred to the House Energy and Commerce.

H.R.1251

CPI-E Act of 2017

Introduced on 2/28/2017 by Representative John Garamendi (CA-3)

To provide for the cost-of-living increases for certain Federal benefits programs based on the increases in the Consumer Price Index for the elderly.

On 2/28/2017 Referred to the House Armed Services

H.R.1189

Anti-hunger Empowerment Act of 2017

Introduced on 2/16/2017 by Representative Jose Serrano (NY-15)

This bill reduces administrative requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP – formerly known as the food stamp program), authorizes funding to increase access to SNAP offices, and authorizes grants for community-based nonprofits to expand anti-hunger activities. Text [HERE](#)

On 3/10/2017 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.

H.Res.160

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to establish a Permanent Select Committee on Aging

Introduced on 3/1/2017 by Representative David N. Cicilline (RI-1)

On 3/1/2017 Referred to the House Committee on Rules.

S.547

Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act of 2017

Introduced on 3/7/2017 by Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand (NY)

To prevent mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud targeting seniors in the U.S., to promote efforts to increase public awareness of the enormous impact that mail, telemarketing and Internet fraud have on seniors, to educate the public, seniors, their families, and their caregivers about how to identify and combat fraudulent activity, and for other purposes.

On 3/7/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

S.461

Faith-Based Community Center Protection Act

Introduced on 2/27/2017 by Senator Martin Heinrich (NM)

To allow Homeland Security Grant Program funds to be used to safeguard faith-based community centers across the United States, and for other purposes.

On 2/27/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Budget Resolution for FY 17 – [S.Con.Res.3](#)

You can also check active (federal) legislation [HERE](#).

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your Representative or Senators by visiting: [http://www.house.gov/](http://www.house.gov) for the **House** or [http://www.senate.gov/](http://www.senate.gov) for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

Contact the **White House**: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

ALSO: USA.gov provides contact information at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

NEWS& RESOURCES

Administration for Community Living/ACL

A **Profile of Older Americans 2016** is available online at:

https://aoa.acl.gov/Aging_Statistics/Profile/index.aspx

Aging Statistics [HERE](#)

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation March 15, 2017

Restructuring Medicaid in the American Health Care Act: Five Key Considerations [HERE](#)

[Kaiser Health News](#)

Aging-related stories at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>

California Healthline, March 17, 2017

Dentistry Advocates Aim To Fill Medicare Gaps [HERE](#)

Latest Information!

2017 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures: <http://alz.org/facts/>

Note: *Full Report* and *Infographic* available at the link provided.

National Alzheimer's Project Act updated information can be found at:
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

Alzheimer's website: <http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

National Council on Aging/NCOA latest news [HERE](#)

Statement on the Trump Administration Budget Blueprint [HERE](#)

Statement on the American Health Care Act [HERE](#)

From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**

Friday, 3/17 /2017 Update

House Budget Committee Passes American Health Care Act

On March 16th, 2017, the House Budget Committee passed the American Health Care Act (AHCA) on a vote of 19 to 17. The bill will now go to the House Rules Committee for further consideration.

To read NASUAD's summary of the legislation [click here](#).

President Trump Releases Budget Blueprint for 2018

On March 16th, 2017, President Trump released a "Budget Blueprint" for 2018. This "skinny budget" provided a broad outline of his proposed budget. The budget blueprint proposes topline spending of approximately \$1.1 trillion. As expected, the White House proposed a \$54 billion increase in military spending, with corresponding decreases in many domestic programs.

Highlights include:

- A \$15.1 billion decrease in funding for Health and Human Services funding
 - No details on ACL funding were included
- Proposed elimination of the following programs
 - SCSEP - Senior Community Service Employment Program
 - CDBG - Community Development Block Grant

- LIHEAP - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

[Click here](#) for NASUAD's full analysis.

Webinar: Money Smart for Older Adults: Prevent Financial Exploitation

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) are hosting a webinar on preventing elder financial exploitation aimed at older adults and family caregivers. The webinar will take place on **Thursday, March 30, 2017, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to register.

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Aetna Foundation - 2017 Cultivating Healthy Communities Grant Program

Information found [HERE](#)

March 24

Directions for Care: After the Dementia Diagnosis from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Banner Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W Santa Fe Drive, Morin Auditorium, Sun City AZ 85351

Registration required; call **623-832-3248** to reserve space and materials.

March 30, 2017

Caregiver Day at the Capitol

11:30 – 2:00 pm (lunch provided to registered attendees)

Arizona Capitol Museum, 1700 W. Washington Street, Phoenix AZ,

Room #200

Register online at: <https://tinyurl.com/htzxhbr>

Learn more: www.AZCaregiver.org or call Cindy Findley at **602-542-6593**.

April 9-11, 2017

Arizona's 30th Annual Transit Conference, presented by AzTA and ADOT, Phoenix Airport Marriott; Registration [HERE](#)

Friday, April 21

Arizona Geriatric Society Annual Spring Conference *Keeping the Person in Person-Centered Geriatric Care*

Plaza Arboleda Conference Center in Tucson AZ

[Online registration](#)

Mark your calendar

May 12, 2017

2017 AOHC Oral Health Summit *Launching the Future of Arizona's Oral Health*

Wigwam Resort, 300 E. Wigwam Blvd., Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

More information coming soon...

In case you missed it last time...

[Kaiser Health News](#) morning briefings March 9, 2017

ALSO:

A Playbook For Managing Problems In The Last Chapter of Life [HERE](#)

For Some Hospice Patients, A 911 Call Saves A Trip To The ER [HERE](#)

‘Right-to-Try’ Laws Expose Dying Patients To Exploitation, Ethicists Warn
[HERE](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/CDC

500 Cities: Local data for better health [HERE](#)

Collaboration between the CDC, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the CDC Foundation

From the **Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation**

How Affordable Care Act Repeal and Replace Plans Might Shift Health Insurance Tax Credits
[HERE](#) (Updated on March 10, 2017)

Also: Tax Credits under the Affordable Care Act vs. the American Health Care Act: An Interactive Map [HERE](#)

The Center on Aging & Work at Boston College

Fact of the Week – 2/27/2017 – 1 in 3 non-retirees age 50+ not taking steps to save for retirement health care costs

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. (2016) Health Care Costs in Retirement Survey among U.S. adults ages 50 and older. Retrieved from [this source](#).

Ongoing Resources

From the **Governor's Office**

See the latest news

Newsroom: <http://azgovernor.gov/newsroom>

#AZAWESOME Shareables: <http://azgovernor.gov/governor/shareables>

AHCCS News & Updates:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.html>

Arizona Department of Economic Security Feature Stories [HERE](#)

Arizona Attorney General's Senior Resources [HERE](#)

Arizona Department of Health Services

Public Health Licensing [HERE](#)

Arizona Healthy Aging (A- HA) [HERE](#)

Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A

Map of Regions [HERE](#)

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) – free health benefit counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their families or caregivers.

More information [HERE](#)

Just in case

If you wish to share our tracking list, here is the link to the web report.

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25801&listid=61524&print=true>

Past issues of the *Legislative Updates* are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including marketing or fundraising materials.

It is our intent to offer the *Legislative Update* at least every other week during the session. Look for our next issue the week of March 27.

Enjoy your weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: gaca@az.gov and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
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